POPULATION TODAY

Vol. 17, No. 9 September 1989

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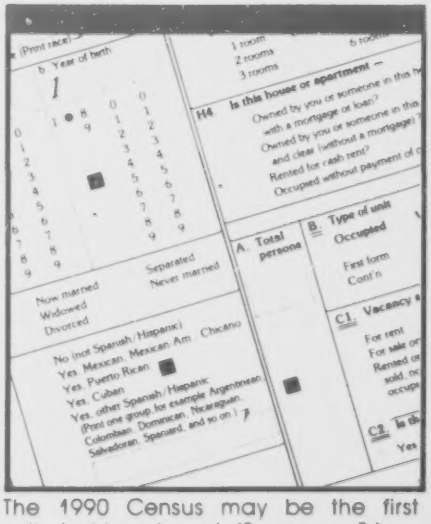

The 1990 Census may be the first adjusted headcount. (See page 3.)

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Isn't it time we had a population museum?

Such a museum would encompass a tremendous variety of subjects. Dioramas with suitable plaques underneath, such as "Population: 10,000 B.C.," could show family units in different historical epochs, a saber-toothed tiger poised discreetly in the background.

Elaborate miniatures would illustrate the mushrooming of cities through the ages. Giant blinking-light maps might depict growth and migration, food production and pollution patterns. A multimedia exhibit à la *The Family of Man* could remind us of the diversity and universality of human beings from pole to pole.

Numerical abstractions could be illustrated in concrete terms: a thousand (faces), a million (dots). One hundred billion (air-rifle BB's, one for every person born, enough to fill a bin 63 x 63 x 63 feet and weigh 40,000 tons, by the way). Museum goers' minds would boggle.

Standing at computerized, hands-on exhibits, visitors could play "what-if" with the graphics of demographic destiny. The life table's winnowing process might be illustrated by the world's biggest Pachinko pinball machine. A smaller version would be available in the museum shop.

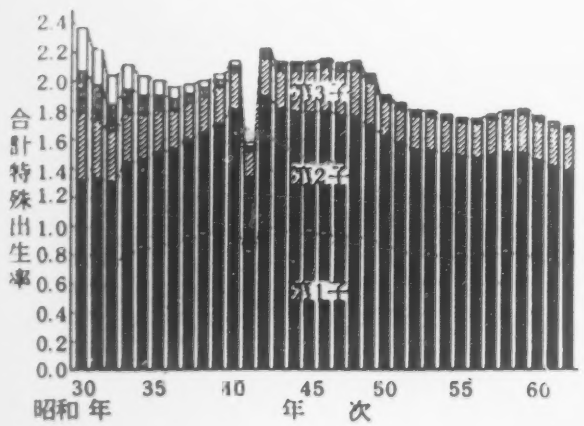
And at one end of the exhibit hall, a floor-to-ceiling window would face out on the bustling city outside. The plaque underneath: "Population: Present Day."

—Art Haupt

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY

When Did You Say You Were Born, Miss?

図1　出生順位別，合計特殊出生率：昭和30～62年



Japan's fertility rate experienced a steep drop in 1966, the Year of the Fiery Horse. According to legend, a woman born in that year will kill her husband. In Japan's traditional calendar, each year was expressed by a combination of two calendar elements, a 10-year elemental cycle (Fire, Water, Tree . . .) and a 12-year animal cycle (Horse, Sheep, Monkey . . .). Fire and Horse years combine every 60 years. The above graph gives average lifetime births per woman in Japan along the Y-axis, with the birth year of these women along the X-axis. (The years are expressed in Shōwa years, that is years in the reign of Emperor Hirohito.) The sharp decline in Shōwa 41 (A.D. 1966) demonstrates that this 400-year-old superstition was still alive in the 1960s and significantly depressed childbearing. The next Year of the Fiery Horse will come in 2026.

Source: *Journal of Population Problems*, October 1988

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Census Subject to Possible Correction

U.S. census adjustment is closer to being a reality.

In what appears to be an important policy change, the Census Bureau has agreed to *consider* adjusting the official figures of the 1990 Census for undercount.

The reversal in longstanding policy, certain to be controversial, emanates from an out-of-court settlement of a suit against the Bureau. In the suit, New York City and New York State (joined by Chicago, Los Angeles, Houston, Dade County, Fla., and the State of California) sought to compel statistical adjustment to compensate for anticipated undercounting or overcounting in the census.

Their concern is understandable. Census results have consequences – apportionment of the House of Representatives and state legislatures – and undercounting is more likely to occur inside cities than outside them, and more among minority groups than among the white majority.

The settlement was announced by the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Justice on July 17, 1989, which would have been the first day of the trial in Federal District Court in Brooklyn, N.Y.

"We are very pleased with the settlement, as it achieves our highest priority – preserving the integrity, fairness, and accuracy of the traditional census," stated Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher.

"Lots of people say how wonderful it is to beat City Hall," New York Mayor Ed Koch said, "but how much more wonderful to beat the Feds."

To Adjust or Not?

Under the settlement, the Census Bureau will conduct the 1990 Census as usual. As usual, it will report the results to Congress and the states – but this time with the proviso that "the counts are subject to possible correction."

Meanwhile, an independent advisory panel of eight independent census "experts" are to be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. These experts will make a formal recommendation to the Secretary whether, in their view, adjustment is necessary. (Scheduling has yet to be worked out for the appointment and report of this panel.)

U.S. Bureau of the Census

After the enumerators, the adjusters.

The scheduling for the 1990 Census now takes new form:

March 10, 1990: Guidelines for consideration of a possible adjustment are published by Commerce. These are made public before Census Day so that no one can charge that the guidelines were tailored by the government to adjust displeasing numbers.

> A postcensus survey would determine undercounts

April 1, 1990 and after: Decennial census is held.

July 1990: Postenumeration survey of 150,000 households is held.

Dec. 31, 1990: State-by-state census results are reported to Congress – "subject to possible correction."

Early 1991: After hearing recommendations of the panel of experts, the Secretary of Commerce announces decision as to whether to adjust the census.

April 1, 1991: Census figures down to the local level are reported to the states – again, "subject to possible correction."

July 15, 1991: By this date, either official adjusted census figures are released, or, if no adjustment is made, Commerce issues a detailed statement of the grounds for the decision.

"Due Consideration"

Are "the Feds," in Mayor Koch's words, "beaten," or cannily retrenching? It's too early to be sure.

By issuing results before adjustment, the Census Bureau meets the timetable prescribed for it by law (Dec. 31 and April 1). How far reapportionment can proceed, based on numbers that are "subject to possible correction," is hard to say.

Or will the Commerce Secretary simply finesse the issue? He does have authority, after all, to give a polite nod to the experts and guidelines but conclude that adjustment is not needed this time around.

Attorneys for the litigating cities have nevertheless expressed satisfaction with the provisions of the out-of-court settlement. Half the appointments to the panel of experts will be recommended to Commerce by the New York City Corporation Counsel. And – no matter what adjustment option the Commerce Secretary chooses – "We are going to have the data," Los Angeles City Attorney James K. Hahn told *The Los Angeles Times*. "We are going to know. And if [the Secretary] doesn't follow recommendations to adjust, he is going to have to justify his decision."

How will the postenumeration survey be conducted? The nation's census blocks would be assigned to one of 100 categories. In July 1990, interviewers will visit some 150,000 housing units across the country in 5,000 census blocks randomly chosen to proportionately represent all 100 categories. Some 375,000 people are to be interviewed. (There were 2.6 million census blocks in the U.S. as of 1980, and 99.9 million housing units as of 1985.)

Continued on page 8

Kenya and South Korea Reporting Fertility Drops

The Preliminary Report of the 1988 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey shows a total fertility rate (TFR) of 6.7 lifetime births per woman – which may sound high compared to most countries but would constitute a remarkable decline for a country previously known for its very high fertility.

The 6.7 figure is significantly lower than the TFR of 7.7 measured in Kenya's 1984 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey and the 8.1 value independently estimated by demographers. The Report notes that some of the slide may be due to measurement differences between the two surveys, but that the 6.7 TFR is not inconsistent with increases in family planning usage, now estimated at 27 percent of Kenyan married women.

More news on Kenya's reported fertility fall will appear in the October issue of *PT*.

An even more astounding TFR drop is the 1.6 children per woman for South Korea reported in a 1988 national survey.

The survey was conducted by the Korea Institute for Population and Health and described in their June 1989 newsletter. Should the 1.6 measurement be confirmed, it would mean that South Korea's fertility had not only plummeted to below-replacement levels typical of more developed countries, but was now lower than half of *them*. (By comparison, the TFR in East Germany is 1.7; in France, 1.8; in the U.S., 1.9; while replacement level is about 2.1.)

Two decades ago, South Korean fertility stood at 5.4 lifetime children per woman. The explanation for such an unparalleled fertility decline probably lies in the extremely successful Korean family planning program. Contraceptive use among couples of reproductive age was 77.3 percent in 1988. Some 42.2 percent of couples reported that their method of contraception was sterilization.

– *C.H.*

WASHINGTON WATCH

Census News

The House Post Office and Civil Service Committee approved legislation to improve the Census Bureau's ability to attract a qualified work force for the 1990 Census. The bill would exempt retired federal employees and military officers hired for temporary census positions from a law which requires a reduction in their annuity if they are reemployed by the federal government. The bill now moves on to the floor of the House of Representatives, where it is expected to pass under suspension of the rules. Senator John Glenn (D-Ohio) is expected to introduce similar legislation in the Senate in the near future.

In the Senate, immigration legislation designed to increase the flow of skilled and educated immigrant workers was approved on July 13.

Michigan pollster Barbara Bryant is reportedly being considered by the Bush Administration to be the next Census Bureau director, though she has yet to be formally nominated. Alan Heslop, mentioned as a possible candidate (see *PT*, June 1989), earlier withdrew from consideration.

Family Planning

The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee has approved legislation to reauthorize the domestic family planning program, Title X of the Public Health Service Act. If it is ultimately signed into law, the bill would be the first reauthorization of the program since 1985. (It has been sustained by continuing resolutions since that time.) The bill provides $548.7 million in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992.

Sexual Behavior Survey

On July 25, the House Appropriations Committee deleted the $11 million funding for a pilot study of Americans' sexual behavior, all but killing the study's prospects for passage this year.

The study, originally scheduled to begin earlier this year, has become mired in controversy amid growing opposition from some members of Congress and the Bush Administration. The survey of 2,300 people, a pretest to a national survey expected to interview 20,000 Americans over a two-year period about their sexual experiences, attitudes, and behavior, is being handled by the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center, for the National Institute on Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

The survey would provide researchers with the first updated data on sexual behavior and practices since the landmark Kinsey Report of the 1940s and could help to provide a better understanding of how the AIDS epidemic is spreading in the United States. The need for such a study was recommended by the National Academy of Sciences in 1986 and again recently by the General Accounting Office in a report on the AIDS epidemic.

NICHD's effort to provide this information has been endorsed by the President's Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic, 23 national health and social science groups, and more than 40 members of Congress. However, the explicit nature of portions of the study's questionnaire has lead some conservative members of Congress to charge that the survey would represent a government intrusion into people's private affairs.

Foreign Assistance Act

The House has passed the International Economic Cooperation Act, a bill authorizing $11.5 billion annually in fiscal years 1990 and 1991 for foreign economic, military, and development aid. The House Foreign Affairs Committee earmarked $202 million in fiscal year 1990 and $206 million in 1991 for family planning programs.

This move appears to ensure the ear-

Continued on page 9

Altered States On Latest U.S. Data Sheet

Just out, the 1989 *United States Population Data Sheet* – the eighth edition since this PRB publication began in 1981 – features a plethora of demographic statistics for the 50 states and the District of Columbia, incorporating population changes both from 1980 to 1988 and from 1987 to 1988.

Traditional Rustbelt states such as Michigan experienced a modest turnaround during the last half of the 1980s. Population boom states in the Sunbelt, on the other hand, particularly Texas, have lately seen uncharacteristic out-migration, a result of the "oil bust."

Population totals, rankings, minority population, and dependent age groups are given for each state. The Data Sheet also features state-by-state net migration estimates for 1987-1988, data not readily available in published form.

And with U.S. interdependence on the global economy of increasing interest, the Data Sheet's maps, graphs, and figures reveal growing U.S. international involvement.

Perhaps suprisingly for the seemingly homogeneous U.S., the Data Sheet shows great differences between individual states' natural increase rates (i.e., the number of births minus the number of deaths per 1,000 population). These rates range from West Virginia's 1.6 rate (virtually zero population growth) all the way up to Alaska's 18.5 (higher than Thailand's). This growth measure of fertility and mortality is, it should be noted, very sensitive to age structure, (i.e., the proportion of a state's population who are in their childbearing years).

– *C.H.*

PRB members receive their copies of the *United States Population Data Sheet* in the same mailing as this issue of *Population Today*. Additional copies of the Data Sheet can be ordered from the Population Reference Bureau, Inc., Circulation Dept. P.O. Box 96152, Washington, D.C. 20090-6152, with checks payable to PRB. Prices are $3.00 ea.; 2-10, $2.75 ea.; 11-50, $2.50 ea.; over 50, $2.25 ea. Orders for $50 or less must be prepaid and include $1.00 for postage and handling.

SURVEY REPORT

Swaziland

Virtually surrounded by South Africa, Swaziland is one of the smallest countries in Africa, with a land area slightly smaller than New Jersey and a 1989 population of 763,000.

Swaziland is influenced by both its traditional heritage and that of the modern world. With a per capita GNP of $700 (1987), Swaziland ranks as a middle income country, yet, as is true in most sub-Saharan African countries, the people are highly dependent on agriculture for subsistence, and health indicators reveal a population more characteristic of poorer nations.

Results have now been published from the Family Health Survey (FHS), conducted in 1988 by the Swaziland Ministry of Health with technical assistance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, which was specifically designed to provide decision makers in the Ministry of Health with current data on which to base health policies.

Swazi fertility is high, though not unusually high for Africa; at the total fertility rate estimated by the survey, a woman would give birth to 5.1 children during her life. Urban women would have an average of 3.5 children while rural women would have 5.4 children. (These survey figures are lower than previous estimates.) Indicators of completed childbearing show that overall fertility has declined; the average number of children ever born to women age 45-49 is 5.4.

More than three-quarters of the women know of the pill or injection, six in 10 recognize the IUD or the condom, but fewer than half are familiar with female sterilization. Not surprisingly, more than three-quarters of the men know of condoms, and seven in 10 know of the pill.

The FHS provides unexpectedly positive information on contraceptive use and indicates that the National Family Planning Program, begun in 1973 by the Ministry of Health, has had an impact. Seventeen percent of married women are currently using contraception and one-third have ever used a method. The pill is the most common method, used by 4.8 percent of all married women. It is followed by injection (4.4 percent), female sterilization (2.4 percent), and IUD (1.5 percent). Rhythm and withdrawal are each practiced by about 1 percent, while condoms, foaming tablets, male sterilization, and "other" (probably traditional methods) are together used by less than 2 percent of married women.

Contraceptive use in the urban areas is twice that of the rural regions, increases with age up to age 30-34, and is highly correlated with a woman's level of education.

Child health indicators show that many children suffer from common childhood diseases. Almost one-quarter of the children under age 5 had had diarrhea in the two weeks before the survey, but 81 percent were treated with oral rehydration therapy (ORT), an inexpensive and effective treatment for the dehydrating effects of diarrhea.

Immunization coverage of children under 5 years old for tetanus is almost complete (93 percent). However, only about half of these children have received complete vaccination against diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus, polio, or measles.

Recognition of AIDS is high among both women (84 percent) and men (91 percent), with knowledge tending to be higher in the urban areas, among those under age 35, and among those with some education.

– *B.S.*

DEMOGRAPHER'S PAGE

Family Demography: A New Approach to The College Population Course

by William D. Mosher

This Demographer's Page is adapted from a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America in Baltimore, Maryland, March 30-April 1, 1989. The opinions expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.

Reprint requests may be sent to: William D. Mosher, 10118 Brock Drive, Silver Spring, Md. 20903.

This paper describes my experience teaching an undergraduate course called "Family Demography" at the University of Maryland University College, the University of Maryland's "evening school." There are no prerequisites; no previous courses in sociology, demography, or mathematics are required. The course is aimed at juniors and seniors, but not graduate students.

The course is designed to be interesting for the students, but rigorous. I have four basic goals: (1) to cover the basic elements of a standard introductory population course; (2) to teach basic demographic measures and to overcome student fears about using simple statistical data; (3) to examine the demographic aspects of important individual life choices; and (4) to show the uses of demographic research in understanding some important public issues. Judging by their comments, many of the students felt the course succeeded at these goals.

Materials

There is no single book designed for such a course, so I use the following materials:

1. *Introduction to Population*, by Kenneth Kammeyer and Helen Ginn (1986). This is a short text, only 280 pages. I use about 230 pages of it. It covers the essentials briefly and well.

2. *Life Choices*, by Robert E. Kennedy, Jr. (1986). This is a well-written, easy-to-understand book that spells out how demographic changes affect our choices about marriages, parenthood, education, occupation, homeownership, migration, and retirement. The book personalizes demography in an effective way in only 160 pages. Student response to the book has been enthusiastic.

Population fundamentals in one semester, 15 sessions

3. Finally, I use about 100 pages of other articles. Many of these are very short – often five pages or less – but they add variety and cover topics such as child care, working women, teenage pregnancy, and others that are not covered in textbooks or readers.

My main sources of lecture material are reports from the Census Bureau and the National Center for Health Statistics, the *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (a good source of data for lectures), *American Demographics* (which shows how demography can be used in business), and PRB publications.

Course Outline

The course meets once a week for 2 hours and 40 minutes. There are 15 sessions, ordered as follows:

1. Introduction to demography. Definition of demography; the family, and cohorts. A brief history of world population growth, emphasizing the links between death rates, the importance of childbearing, and the roles of women. The current size and growth of the world population. Vital statistics, censuses, and surveys as sources of demographic data.

2. Age and sex composition and the future. Population pyramids and other measures of age composition. The effects of cohort size on education, the military, the labor market, housing, etc. (some of the practical applications of demography in business, government, and education).

3. Projections, education, and occupation. A gentle introduction to simple tables, examining two topics of interest to nearly all students: the dollar value of a college education and the fastest growing occupations.

4. Poverty and welfare. How poverty is measured. Major federal programs for the poor. Differences between whites, blacks, and Hispanics in income and poverty. From this session on, differences between blacks and whites are a major theme in the course. White-black differences are a way to study the effects of social stratification and poverty on life chances and on the quality of life.

5. Fertility I. Data sources. Why demographers study fertility differentials; findings by race, religion, and socioeconomic status; use of intermediate variables to explain trends and race differences in fertility in the U.S.

6. Fertility II. Teenage pregnancy, premarital sex, and abortion. Trends and black-white differentials in premarital sex, teen pregnancy, and abortion in the U.S. Comparisons of U.S. and Europe. Reasons why other industrial countries have lower rates of teenage pregnancy than the U.S. Characteristics of women obtaining abortions. According to the student evaluations, this is the students' favorite lecture.

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7. Fertility III. Delayed childbearing, infertility, and cesarean section, focusing on trends in the U.S., and emphasizing the theme that baby boomers do not have unprecedented levels of delayed childbearing or infertility. Most of the students are surprised to hear this.

8. Migration and homeownership. Theories of migration. The age patterns of migration and home ownership. The effect of the baby boom on the U.S. housing market.

9. Marriage, divorce, and remarriage. Sources of data, trends, and black-white differentials. Types of marriage: arranged, traditional, and egalitarian, the consequences of each type for men and women.

10. Trends in household composition in the U.S. This includes unmarried cohabitation, living alone, adoption, and children's experience of marital disruption.

11. Aging, retirement, health, and mortality. Effects of the baby boom and baby bust on the social security program, and implications for one's own retirement planning. Race, sex, and marital status differences and trends in mortality in the U.S. AIDS.

12. Working women and child care. Causes of the increase in female labor force participation in the U.S. Explanations of the sex difference in earning. Policies on working women and child care in the U.S. and Sweden.

13. Population and family policy around the world. Focusing on policies in Europe, China, and the U.S. I include a film on China's one-child policy here.

14. Review and conclusions. A detailed review lecture on the entire course.

15. Final exam.

Tests and Assignments

In weeks 5, 10, and 15, I give tests that are a mixture of multiple choice and short-answer questions. I also give two assignments. The first requires the students to compute and interpret some simple demographic measures including birth and death rates and an age pyramid, for Maryland in 1980. The second is a five- to eight-page paper, using the lecture notes and readings, on the demographic differences between whites and blacks in the U.S.

Conclusions

The course outlined above presents a fresh approach to the undergraduate introductory population course, and emphasizes several themes. Some of these are themes in the courses described by Poston and Sullivan (1986), and by Weeks (1986), but there are others as well.

1. The first is that the course is quantitative but not highfalutin. I use simple numbers, rates, and percentages in every lecture, in both assignments, and in many of the test questions. By the end of the course, many of the students realize that they can use and interpret numbers and rates without fear.

2. The course shows that many of life's fundamental choices – including education, marriage, parenthood, homeownership, occupation, and retirement – have measurable consequences which have been studied. Thus, demography can be used to make more informed choices about one's own life course (Kennedy, 1986).

3. Another theme is that many social behaviors – including education, entering the labor market, marriage, childbearing, home renting and buying, retirement, and many others – are age-related. This makes it possible to project their aggregate trends. It also makes clear some of the practical applications of demography in business, government, and education. Finally, these patterns by age are among the best documented in demography, which allows the course to stress what we know well.

4. Finally, the course shows that government agencies and demographers publish data that shed light on many political issues, ranging from poverty to abortion and teenage pregnancy. As students see these issues analyzed objectively with demographic data, they learn that demographic research can help them understand and deal with practical problems that they hear about, and face, every day.

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PRB Awards Dinner

The Board of Trustees and the Staff of the Population Reference Bureau, Inc., cordially invite you to celebrate PRB's 60th anniversary at the 1989 Annual Awards Dinner recognizing outstanding contributions in the field of demography.

The dinner speaker will be Dr. Richard Berendzen, President of The American University.

Date: Thursday, Oct. 26, 1989
Time: Cocktails (cash bar) 6:30
Dinner and Awards Ceremony 7:15
Place: National Press Building
14th and F Sts., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Awards Dinner tickets are $40 each. Send check to Population Reference Bureau, Attn.: Dorsey Hampshire, 777 14th St., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005. Checks payable to PRB.

Abortion Outlook Changed By Webster Decision

On July 3, 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 5-to-4 ruling, announced its decision to uphold a Missouri law limiting access to abortions under certain conditions in the case of Webster v. Reproductive Health Services.

The decision had been much awaited by advocates on both sides of the abortion debate and was seen as the most consequential abortion decision since 1973's Roe v. Wade, which had made abortion legal under constitutional guarantees of privacy and set up a trimester framework for regulating abortion.

What precisely did the Court decide or not decide? Some pointers:

1. The July 3 decision did not "criminalize" abortion; that is, it did not overturn the 1973 case of Roe v. Wade. However, the court's decision did erode some of that case's guidelines.

2. The Court did, however, uphold a Missouri ban on the use of public funds, employees, and facilities for any abortion-related activity except when necessary to save the mother's life. This continues previous rulings.

3. The Court upheld the Missouri provision that requires physicians to perform tests of fetal viability before performing an abortion on a woman 20-24 weeks pregnant. The exact nature of these tests was left to the physician's discretion.

It is this third facet of the ruling which challenges Roe v. Wade. In its 1973 decision, the Supreme Court created a trimester framework for regulating abortion: 1) during the first three months, restrictions could not be applied to a woman's access to abortion; 2) during the second trimester, states could apply reasonable regulations only to protect women's health; and 3) during the third trimester, when most fetuses are viable, abortion is not allowed except to protect the mother's life.

The Webster decision appears to change what states may do during the second trimester. Some analysts feel that this will open the door for other kinds of second-trimester regulations – regulations which will not make abortion illegal but which will restrict access to abortion services.

Past Court rulings have never allowed regulations which restrict access, but with the conservative cast of recent Court appointments, past behavior may no longer predict future decisions. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear three more abortion cases during its next session, two concerning parental approval (Ohio and Minnesota) and one from Illinois regarding standards for abortion clinic facilities and equipment. In addition, by upholding the requirement for viability testing, the Court is allowing a shift in emphasis away from maternal health to the health of the fetus.

In the short run, observers believe, the Webster decision is not likely to drastically reduce the number of abortions in Missouri. Whether its effects carry more widely will be determined as individual state legislatures review their current abortion laws.

– *N.Y.*

Census Correction

Continued from page 3

By comparing survey tallies for a block with the 1990 Census count of that same block, each block's under- or overcount can be calculated. The calculations from the 5,000 surveyed blocks will then be applied to all blocks in the same category across the country.

Looking to the Future

Although the 1980 Census was probably the most accurate in American history, it undercounted the white-and-other-races population by an estimated 0.7 percent (or about 2 million people), and undercounted the black population by 5.9 percent (or 1.5 million people). Since cities and the black community are also strongholds of relative Democratic Party strength and Republican Party weakness, Democratic politicians often favor census adjustment, and Republican ones oppose it.

For two centuries, the numbers used for apportionment have consisted of the raw national head count "as is," once checks in the field for accuracy and completeness were finished. Any adjustment was considered to be unwise tinkering with this proven approach.

But in 1984, spurred by an outbreak of post-1980 Census lawsuits from localities protesting what they viewed as relative undercounting of their area, the Census Bureau began studying the feasibility of adjustment. (It has since survived all those litigious assaults.) Research indicated that it would be statistically possible to improve census accuracy with a postenumeration survey of 300,000 households.

In late 1987, however, the Commerce Department announced that it had decided against adjusting the 1990 Census. Soon after, the Bureau's Barbara Bailar, who had guided the adjustment research, resigned. Bailar, Associate Director for Statistical Standards and Methodology, did not give her reasons for leaving, but reportedly after initial opposition, she had come to favor the adjustment approach.

The reduction in sample size in the postenumeration survey – to 150,000 – has caused some controversy. Bailar feels that a 300,000-household survey would be preferable; for instance, a more comprehensive breakdown of ethnic groups (such as Hispanics) would be possible. Nevertheless, Bailar, now at the American Statistical Association, is pleased that the Census Bureau has come around to the idea of adjustment. And, she says, "if it's well worked out," the present 150,000-household survey would be adequate for adjustment purposes.

Will the adjusted or unadjusted figures end up being used for reapportionment? Will the final figures themselves be the object of further lawsuits? To what extent will they result in apportionment changes? (Under some scenarios, effects on congressional reapportionment could be minimal; see Demographer's Page, *PT*, March 1989.) The new policy has raised as many questions as answers, and where it will take the U.S. enumeration process, only time will tell.

– *A.H.*

Washington Watch

Continued from page 4

marking of funds specifically for population – the earmarking procedure had been called into question earlier this year by a House task force (see *PT*, June 1989).

After the full committee approved the foreign aid package, it was sent to the House floor where an amendment was attached to the bill that would bar economic aid to any agency or program that supports or participates in forced abortions or involuntary sterilization overseas. This amendment, introduced by Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.), also prohibits the United States from providing assistance to foreign nongovernmental agencies that perform or promote abortion as a form of family planning (commonly referred to as the Mexico City policy).

The Smith Amendment combines the Mexico City policy and prior amendments regarding coercion resulting in the defunding of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). This amendment now puts into law provisions which have annually been included in the appropriations bills and nullifies the possibility of overturning the provisions in the appropriations process.

While the bill has passed the House, the Senate has yet to complete work on its foreign assistance package.

In related news, M. Alan Woods, the Administrator of the Agency for International Development (AID) died of cancer on June 29. Woods, 43, had advocated that U.S. foreign aid programs promote self-sustaining economic growth in developing countries and urged reform of the Foreign Assistance Act. Deputy Administrator Mark L. Edelman has been named Acting Administrator while the White House considers Woods's replacement.

– Brian Cove

Brian Cove is a legislative program assistant in the Washington, D.C. office of the Population Resource Center. The Center monitors legislative issues of concern to the Population Association of America. Neither the Center nor the Association advocates any particular population policy but works to protect funding for quality demographic research.

SOFTWHERE

POPLINE on CD-ROM. The world's largest population bibliographic database is POPLINE. Heretofore available as an on-line service, POPLINE is now also available from Johns Hopkins University on CD-ROM disks, readable on an IBM PC or Macintosh equipped with a CD-ROM drive. The disk is updated semiannually.

Software is included to enable users to search, download to disk, or print the CD-ROM's contents, which consist of a fully indexed collection of over 165,000 citations with abstracts.

Obviating the need for telecommunications and on-line costs, this new access mode is more economical for those who use POPLINE heavily (such as schools). POPLINE CD-ROM is available to developed countries on a subscription basis for $750 per year, which includes documentation and toll-free hotline support. It is also available free of charge to organizations in selected developing countries through a project funded by the UN Population Fund. For more information, contact: Ms. Anne Compton, Center for Communication Programs, The Johns Hopkins University, 527 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Md. 21202. Phone (301) 659-6300; Fax (301) 659-6266.

– A.H.

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated United States Population:

As of May 1, 1989	248,341,000
As of May 1, 1988	245,889,000

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1042.

Estimated World Population:

As of September 1989	5,249,000,000
Annual growth	93,000,000

From the mid-1989 population on PRB's *1989 World Population Data Sheet*.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: March 1989

	12 months ending with March					
	Number		Rate			
Item	1989	1988	1989	1988	1987	1986
Live births	3,917,000	3,835,000	15.9	15.7	15.5	15.8
Deaths	2,152,000	2,165,000	8.7	8.9	8.6	8.7
Natural increase	1,765,000	1,669,000	7.2	6.8	6.9	7.1
Marriages	2,382,000	2,398,000	9.7	9.8	10.0	10.1
Divorces	1,186,000	1,159,000	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.0
Infant deaths	38,400	38,500	9.8	10.1	10.3	10.5
Population base (in millions)			246.3	243.9	241.6	238.9

Note. Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births.

Source. Monthly Vital Statistics Report (Vol. 38, No. 3) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

TAKE A NUMBER

Ethnic Estimates: The idea of a mid-decade census may be long dead (it was proposed and killed during the 1970s). But the Census Bureau has recently released its first mid-decade set of race and ethnic estimates for states, metropolitan areas, and selected counties – a new venture for the Bureau. (In 1978, black populations had been estimated for states on a trial basis.)

These new estimates are based upon a methodology called EAR, evaluation of which has not yet been completed but will be by the time the 1990 Census results come in. (EAR stands for Extended Administrative Records.) The methods are an extension of the Bureau's Administrative Records Method, which has been used since 1975 to estimate intercensal populations. The tables below offer but a sample of the rich body of data on U.S. ethnic change contained in "Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin for States, Metropolitan Areas, and Selected Counties: 1980 to 1985," *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1040-RD-1, available from Census or the GPO.

– C.H.

The 10 States with the Largest Populations of Blacks, Hispanics, and Other Races (in 1000s):

Black

	1985	1980	Percent Change 1980-85
United States	28,902	26,698	8.3
1. New York	2,733	2,515	8.7
2. California	2,074	1,832	13.3
3. Texas	1,909	1,708	11.8
4. Illinois	1,775	1,682	5.6
5. Georgia	1,600	1,466	9.2
6. Florida	1,565	1,350	15.9
7. North Carolina	1,392	1,320	5.4
8. Louisiana	1,348	1,240	8.8
9. Michigan	1,243	1,200	3.6
10. Ohio	1,136	1,081	5.1

All of the above states saw their proportions of blacks increase – except for Texas, where, due to rapid rises among Hispanics, the black proportion fell.

Hispanic

	1985	1980	Percent Change 1980-85
United States	17,517	14,251	22.9
1. California	5,873	4,537	29.4
2. Texas	3,690	2,996	23.1
3. New York	1,879	1,653	13.7
4. Florida	1,102	851	29.5
5. Illinois	755	617	22.4
6. New Jersey	573	486	18.0
7. New Mexico	551	482	14.2
8. Arizona	533	447	19.3
9. Colorado	383	341	12.5
10. Pennsylvania	159	137	15.5

In terms of numbers, the Hispanic population is growing faster than any other minority and will undoubtedly pass the 20 million mark in 1989.

Other Races

	1985	1980	Percent Change 1980-85
United States	7,293	5,359	36.1
1. California	2,315	1,572	47.3
2. Hawaii	692	603	14.6
3. New York	516	385	34.1
4. Texas	315	188	67.1
5. Illinois	264	195	35.3
6. Washington	241	178	35.4
7. Oklahoma	229	192	19.4
8. Arizona	213	180	18.3
9. New Jersey	184	122	50.5
10. New Mexico	156	117	33.4

The "Other Races" population comprises all those who are neither white nor black. The largest two groups are Asian and Pacific Islander, of whom there were 3.5 million in 1980, and American Indians, numbering 1.4 million.

ADDENDA

Signs of the Aging of America–VII

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TIME

You know you're getting old when Questioning Youth starts to grouse about the Establishment, and they mean *you*.

NAFTAT is the National Organization for the Advancement of Time, a group of waggish young promoters bent on curing the U.S. of Baby Boomer nostalgia. "We refuse to live in somebody else's past," proclaim the NAFTATers, who plan to fight "this sinister turn" in American life with slogans like "Just say now," and public events such as "Boycott the Past Week." Contact NAFTAT, 6201 Sunset Blvd., Suite 114, Hollywood, Calif. 90026.

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 777 14th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

A MORTALITY STUDY OF ONE MILLION PERSONS by Demographic, Social, and Economic Factors: 1979-1981 Follow-Up (First Data Book), by Eugene Rogot et al., U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, NIH Publication No. 88-2896, March 1988. (Contact author, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Fed. Building, Room 2C-08, 7550 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Bethesda, Md. 20892.)

Mortality differentials as viewed from social-science perspectives have not been an especially publicized area of research to now. The present volume launches an expected series of project publications from the U.S. National Longitudinal Mortality Study that could well make a landmark contribution to state-of-the-art knowledge and analysis in this important field.

At the project's heart is a system for "matching" individuals identified as subject to mortality in the U.S. since 1979 with U.S. deaths among such individuals since that year. The population source consists of close to a million individuals previously documented in seven Current Population Survey samples, all but one taken about 1980, plus a sample drawn from the 1980 Census. These have been adapted to provide numbers of person-years lived – the denominators needed for death rates – during 1979-1981, the publication's study period.

The data on deaths have been assembled as part of a "National Death Index" system designed to enhance computer capabilities for distinguishing nonsurvivors and survivors among each of the survey population cohorts identified as alive at the beginning of 1979.

Judging from the data presented in this volume, the demographic and socioeconomic depth and range of measures to be generated will go far beyond any ever assembled in this country, not only on differentials proper but also on the paired components from which differentials are derived.

The characteristics for which information on deaths and population size is provided are: race (for white, black, and "other" categories); region (nine census divisions); SMSA status (central city, suburban, and non-SMSA components); nativity (U.S., foreign, and "unknown"); Hispanic status (five categories); education (eight levels); family income (seven intervals); household size (eight categories); marital status (five categories); employment status (seven categories); major occupation (12 groupings); and major industry (12 groupings).

Among the study's numerous main empirical findings, a major one surely is that it reconfirms in depth the black-white "crossover" patterns which have become familiar in previous mortality comparisons (lower white mortality rates at the pre-elderly ages, higher rates thereafter), both for all causes combined and for significant main-cause classifications. A second main indication, involving black males under 65, is that relative mortality risks of ischemic heart disease are seven times higher among those not living in an SMSA than they are for those living in the suburban parts of SMSAs. Surprisingly, foreign-born men have lower all-cause relative mortality measures than do native-born men; for women, in contrast, the corresponding measures are essentially equal.

Some significant user limitations should be noted. Because of the deeply cross-classified population and cause-of-death aggregates considered, observed numbers of deaths for numerous categories are often zero or so small as to rule out statistically meaningful death rates or relative mortality measures. For non-whites, both male and female, such measures are more often omitted than derived for any age group among the 130 cross-classifications theoretically possible of cause-of-death by characteristic.

A second limitation, suggested rather than addressed by the report, is the fact that over 10 percent of the total population sampled involved use of a 1973 survey. Despite the changes that could have intervened during 1973-1979 in most of the individual characteristics under study, corresponding 1973 and near-1980 characteristics have apparently been combined even without allowance for this fact.

A third limitation is that the data as presented document all but one characteristic (race) singly.

Each of these limitations, or all in combination, could be substantially overcome in future (as well as retrospective) matchings by adding to the ongoing study's population base, by modifying definitional or data processing routines, or by both such adaptations.

In sum, the present volume represents an ingeniously conceived addition to the main sources available for documenting, analyzing, and developing policy responses to mortality differentials in this country.

– George J. Stolnitz

MAURITANIA

Population (mid-1989): 2.0 million
Land area: 397,950 sq. miles
Pop. density: 5 persons per sq. mile
Births per 1,000 pop.: 46
Deaths per 1,000 pop.: 20
Rate of Natural Increase: 2.7 percent
Total Fertility Rate: 6.5 children per woman
Infant Mortality Rate: 132 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
Life Expectancy: 45 years
GNP per capita (1987 est.): $440
Capital: Nouakchott

by Alex de Sherbinin

The West African country of Mauritania has a population slightly larger than that of New Mexico with three times the land area, making it one of the world's least densely settled countries. If its uninhabited expanses were any indication of potential, the country would be doing well indeed. Yet the vagaries of climate, swarms of locusts, a population growth rate of 2.7 percent, debt burdens, and growing ethnic divisions have created an uncertain future for the country.

In Mauritania's Saharan north, the landscape is one of shifting sands, rock massifs, and occasional desert oases, supporting an economy of camel herding and date cultivation. Rainfall increases gradually towards the south and reaches 24 inches annually in the Sahelian belt along the Senegal River, the country's breadbasket where much of the rural population resides. There, irrigated fields of rice and corn have been added to the traditional rain-fed crops of millet and sorghum.

The country was agriculturally self-sufficient until the late 1960s, but since the early 1970s it has depended increasingly on imports and food aid. In the early 1970s and again in the early 1980s, severe droughts resulted in a rural exodus as people left subsistence herding and farming in affected areas to settle along the country's east-west highway (the "route of hope") and in squatter settlements around the coastal, capital city of Nouakchott.

As in other Western Africa countries, fertility is high (an average 6.5 lifetime births per woman). In the 29 years since Mauritania gained independence from France in 1960, its population has a little more than doubled (from 991,000). And if current growth continues, the population could double again by 2015.

At the last census in 1976, Moors, a heterogeneous group of Arab/Berber stock, comprised two-thirds of the population. As is the case in the Sudan, Chad, and Niger, the Moorish northern population identifies closely with its North African neighbors, while blacks in southern Mauritania are ethnically affiliated with groups in Mali and Senegal. Although both groups are Islamic, tensions between the Moors and blacks flared in 1987, and again in the spring of this year.

Racial tensions are not new to Mauritania. However, more recent protests have had demographic connections, as southern blacks came to believe that they form a national majority and protested the "Arabicization" of the country by the Moors. (It should be noted that the results of the 1988 census, which are still unpublished, will not present data on race or ethnic affiliation.)

Conflicts between Mauritanians and neighboring Senegalese probably have similar roots. Following a skirmish between Moor herders and Senegalese farmers in April 1989, Moor shops in Dakar and Thies were looted and many of the Moor shop owners were forced to return home to Mauritania. Retaliatory attacks in Nouakchott on black Africans with Senegalese connections left some 200 dead. Mauritania has subsequently deported over 40,000 blacks to Senegal.

Attempting to increase the agricultural productivity of the Senegal River territories and to encourage resettlement outside of Nouakchott, the Mauritanian government implemented land reform laws which have made it legal for individuals to claim "unused" lands along the river in order to establish irrigated fields. These lands were traditionally considered to belong to local lineages, which exercised usufructuary rights over their properties. The disproportionately rapid population growth in the south, coupled with increasing competition for arable land from outsiders, will likely lead to a greater number of land disputes in the river valley.

Mauritania has no overall population policy in effect at present. Some official statements have indicated that further growth may be desirable for development purposes. The primary thrust of government health programs has been to reduce morbidity and mortality, especially among infants, children, and mothers. Access to contraception is not supported, and only 1 percent of married women are estimated to be practicing any form of contraception.

At a 1987 conference sponsored by the Ministry of Health, however, religious holy men concluded that contraception and family planning are permissible under Islam. Although this did not result in a change of government policy, it signals that there would be little opposition on religious or moral grounds to future implementation of family planning programs.

Alex de Sherbinin is a geographer and an information specialist at PRB.